

Ordinance Fact Sheet

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: October 6, 2014

FROM: CITY ATTORNEY

SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA ADDING CHAPTER 6.09 TO TITLE 6 OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE REQUIRING ALL DOGS AND CATS WITHIN THE CITY TO BE SPAYED OR NEUTERED

TITLE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA ADDING CHAPTER 6.09 TO TITLE 6 OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE REQUIRING ALL DOGS AND CATS WITHIN THE CITY TO BE SPAYED OR NEUTERED

PURPOSE OF ORDINANCE:

Spaying and neutering has been shown to reduce aggression in dogs and has the added benefit of reducing the population of unwanted and stray animals. On October 7, 2013, the City Council considered the introduction of an ordinance requiring all dogs and cats over 4 months of age to be spayed or neutered. The Council decided to postpone action on this ordinance. On January 27, 2014, the City Council considered the introduction of an ordinance requiring mandatory spay and neuter of pit bull cross breeds. The City Council tabled the ordinance and directed staff to return on July 14, 2014 with options and recommendations. On July 14, 2014, the City Council directed the City Attorney to draft a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance. This ordinance will require that all cats and dogs over 6 months be spayed or neutered. The ordinance will also provide exemptions to the mandatory spay/neuter requirement and provide for an increased license fee for those dogs that are exempt.

City staff has worked with the Pasadena Humane Society with respect to the implementation of this ordinance. The ordinance would be enforced starting July 1, 2015, to allow the City and PHS to complete their education and outreach programs. The ordinance also provides for a grace period whereby owners of currently licensed

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unaltered dogs will be allowed to license their dog at the unaltered dog license rate for Mandatory Spay and Neuter Ordinance for one year; the owner must have the dog altered or apply for and obtain an unaltered dog license in that year. This grace period would also apply to the owners of newly licensed unaltered dogs who would also be allowed to license their dog at the unaltered dog license rate for one year and must also have the dog altered or apply for and obtain an unaltered dog license. This grace period would terminate on June 30, 2018.

REASON WHY LEGISLATION IS NEEDED:

Animal control regulations are codified within Title 6 of the Pasadena Municipal Code and an ordinance is required to amend Title 6.

PROGRAMS, DEPARTMENTS OR GROUPS AFFECTED:

The Pasadena Humane Society will enforce the mandatory spay/neuter requirements as well as provide the public outreach and educational programs. The Public Information Office will coordinate with the Pasadena Humane Society in their implementation of the education and outreach program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Adoption of the proposed ordinance will have no fiscal impact on the City as the Pasadena Humane Society is already contracted to enforce the animal control regulations and receives a portion of the licensing fees.

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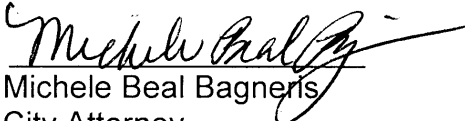
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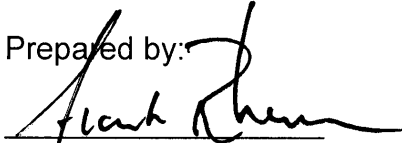
ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

This ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(2) because it will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

Respectfully submitted,


Michele Beal Bagners
City Attorney

Prepared by:


Frank Rhemrev
Assistant City Attorney

Concurrence by:


Michael Beck
City Manager